

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. The method of preparing an animal for use as
2 a specimen in ischemic optic nerve disease research
3 comprising the steps of employing photosensitizing agents
4 injected into the body of the specimen, and
5 irradiating the optic nerve with energy from
6 a laser to damage capillaries feeding the anterior portion
7 of the optic nerve.

1 2. The method of preparing an animal according
2 to claim 1 wherein
3 for rats the laser for irradiating the optic
4 nerve has approximately a 500 to 600 micron size spot at 50
5 microwatts.

1 3. The method of preparing an animal according
2 to claim 2 wherein
3 the spot is directed to the optic nerve for
4 approximately 7 to 30 seconds determined primarily by the
5 retinal artery occlusion desired and under standard
6 conditions, preferably 15 seconds.

1 4. The method of preparing an animal according
2 to claim 1 wherein
3 the laser is an argon green laser.

